

# How to Use Bitcoin to Play Decentralized Poker

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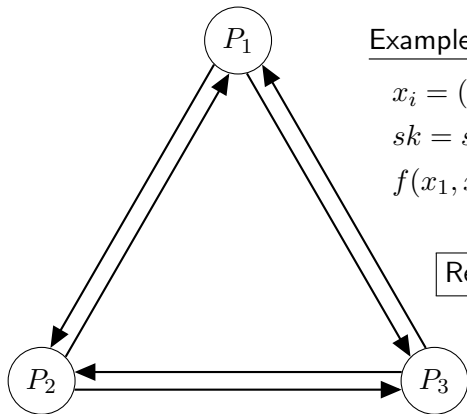
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GTACS

January 8, 2015

## Secure multiparty computation (MPC) / secure function evaluation (SFE)

Parties  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n$  with inputs  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  send messages to each other, and wish to *securely* compute  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ .



Example of SFE:

$$x_i = (sk_i, c)$$

$$sk = sk_1 \oplus sk_2 \oplus \dots \oplus sk_n$$

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \text{decrypt}(sk, c)$$

Reactive MPC: think of poker cards

## Impossibility of fair MPC

Fairness: if any party receives the output, then all honest parties must receive the output.

### “Security with abort” is possible

- Secure MPC is possible [Yao86, GMW87, ...]
  - Security: correctness, privacy, independence of inputs, **fairness**
  - Even with dishonest majority, in the computational setting.

### Full security is impossible

- Fair MPC is impossible [Cle86]
  - $r$ -round 2-party coin toss protocol is susceptible to  $\Omega(1/r)$  bias.
  - $\Rightarrow$  no fair protocol for XOR, barring gradual release [...]

## Our results

### Outline of this presentation

- ① Impose fairness for any SFE, without an honest majority.
- ② Secure (reactive) MPC with money inputs and outputs.
  - Example: poker.

## Formal model that incorporates coins

### Functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\square}$ versus functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\square}^*$ with coins

- If party  $P_i$  has (say) secret key  $sk_0$  and sends it to party  $P_j$ , then both  $P_i$  and  $P_j$  will have the string  $sk_0$ .
- If party  $P_i$  has  $\text{coins}(x)$  and sends  $y < x$  coins to party  $P_j$ , then  $P_i$  will have  $\text{coins}(x - y)$  and  $P_j$  will have extra  $\text{coins}(y)$ .
- With Bitcoin: the parties only send strings, but miners do PoW so that the coin transfers become irreversible.

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- With Bitcoin: the parties only send strings, but miners do PoW so that the coin transfers become irreversible.
- Ideally, all the parties deem coins to be valuable assets.
- Sending  $\text{coins}(x)$  may require a broadcast that reveals at least the amount  $x$  (maybe not in ZK cryptocurrency like Zerocash).
- It is possible to define a “secure computation with coins” model directly, or by using (UC) ideal functionalities.
- We provide simulation based proofs (but not in this talk).

## Claim-or-Refund for two parties $P_s, P_r$ (implicit in [Max11],[BBSU12])

### The $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$ Claim-or-Refund ideal functionality

- 1 The sender  $P_s$  deposits (locks) her coins( $q$ ) while specifying a time bound  $\tau$  and a circuit  $\phi(\cdot)$ .
- 2 The receiver  $P_r$  can claim (gain possession) of the coins( $q$ ) by publicly revealing a witness  $w$  that satisfies  $\phi(w) = 1$ .
- 3 If  $P_r$  didn't claim within time  $\tau$ , coins( $q$ ) are refunded to  $P_s$ .

Claim-or-Refund for two parties  $P_s, P_r$  (implicit in [Max11],[BBSU12])The  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$  Claim-or-Refund ideal functionality

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How to realize  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$  via Bitcoin

- Old version: using “timelock” transactions.
- New version: OP\_CHECKLOCKTIMEVERIFY (abbrv. CLTV) enables  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$  directly, avoiding transaction malleability attacks.



$\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$  via Bitcoin (without CLTV)High-level description the  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$  implementation in Bitcoin

- $P_s$  controls  $TX_{old}$  that resides on the blockchain.
  - $P_s$  creates a transaction  $TX_{new}$  that spends  $TX_{old}$  to a Bitcoin script that can be redeemed by  $P_s$  and  $P_r$ , or only by  $P_r$  by supplying a witness  $w$  that satisfies  $\phi(w) = 1$ .
  - $P_s$  asks  $P_r$  to sign a timelock transaction that refunds  $TX_{new}$  to  $P_s$  at time  $\tau$  (conditioned upon both  $P_s$  and  $P_r$  signing).
  - After  $P_r$  signs the refund,  $P_s$  can safely broadcast  $TX_{new}$ .
- 1  $P_s$  is safe because  $P_r$  only sees  $\text{Hash}(TX_{new})$ , and therefore cannot broadcast  $TX_{new}$  to cause  $P_s$  to lose the coins.
  - 2  $P_r$  can safely sign the random-looking data  $\text{Hash}(TX_{new})$  because the protocol uses a freshly generated  $(sk_R, pk_R)$  pair.

## The structure of Bitcoin transactions

### How standard Bitcoin transactions are chained

- $TX_{old}$  = earlier  $TX$  output of coins( $q$ ) is redeemable by  $pk_A$
- $id_{old} = \text{Hash}(TX_{old})$
- $PREPARE_{new} = (id_{old}, q, pk_B, 0)$  0 means no timelock
- $TX_{new} = (PREPARE_{new}, \text{Sign}_{sk_A}(PREPARE_{new}))$
- $id_{new} = \text{Hash}(TX_{new})$
- Initial minting transaction specifies some  $pk_M$  that belongs to a miner, and is created via *proof of work*.

Realization of  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$  via Bitcoin (without CLTV)The  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$  transaction

- $PREPARE_{\text{new}} = (id_{\text{old}}, q, (pk_S \wedge pk_R) \vee (\phi(\cdot) \wedge pk_R), 0)$
- $\phi(\cdot)$  can be  $\text{SHA256}(\cdot) == Y$  where  $Y$  is hardcoded.
- $TX_{\text{new}} = (PREPARE_{\text{new}}, \text{Sign}_{sk_S}(PREPARE_{\text{new}}))$
- $id_{\text{new}} = \text{Hash}(TX_{\text{new}})$
- $P_s$  sends  $PREPARE_{\text{refund}} = (id_{\text{new}}, q, pk_S, \tau)$  to  $P_r$
- $P_r$  sends  $\sigma_R = \text{Sign}_{sk_R}(PREPARE_{\text{refund}})$  to  $P_s$
- $P_s$  broadcasts  $TX_{\text{new}}$  to the Bitcoin network
- If  $P_r$  doesn't reveal  $w$  until time  $\tau$  then  $P_s$  creates  $TX_{\text{refund}} = (PREPARE_{\text{refund}}, (\text{Sign}_{sk_S}(PREPARE_{\text{refund}}), \sigma_R))$  and broadcasts it to reclaim her  $q$  coins

$\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$  via Bitcoin with CLTV (operational since  $\approx$  December 2015)

Pseudocode:  $pk_S, pk_R, h_0, \tau$  are hardcoded

if (block# >  $\tau$ ) then

$P_s$  can spend the coins( $q$ ) by signing with  $sk_s$

else

$P_r$  can spend the coins( $q$ ) by  
    signing with  $sk_r$

    AND

    supplying  $w$  such that  $\text{Hash}(w) = h_0$  ← this is  $\phi(\cdot)$

## Bitcoin script

```
IF <timeout> CHECKLOCKTIMEVERIFY
  HASH256 <h0> EQUALVERIFY <pkr> CHECKSIGVERIFY
ELSE
  <pks> CHECKSIGVERIFY
ENDIF
```

## Fairness with penalties

### Definition of fair secure multiparty computation with penalties

- An honest party never has to pay any penalty
- If a party aborts after learning the output and doesn't deliver output to honest parties  $\Rightarrow$  every honest party is compensated

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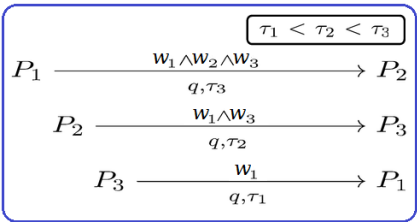
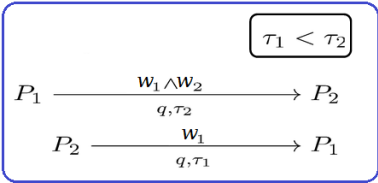
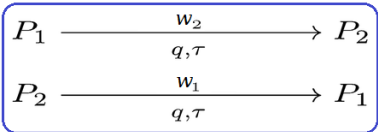
### Outline of $\mathcal{F}_f^*$ – fairness with penalties for any function $f$

- $P_1, \dots, P_n$  with  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  run secure *unfair* SFE for  $f$  that
  - 1 Computes additive shares  $(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  of  $y = f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$
  - 2 Computes  $\text{Tags} = (\text{com}(y_1), \dots, \text{com}(y_n))$  =  $(\text{hash}(y_1), \dots, \text{hash}(y_n))$
  - 3 Delivers  $(y_i, \text{Tags})$  to every  $P_i$
- $P_1, \dots, P_n$  deposit coins and run fair reconstruction (fair exchange) with penalties to swap the  $y_i$ 's among themselves.

Fair exchange in the  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$ -hybrid model - the ladder construction

“Abort” attack:

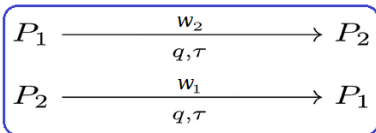
$P_2$  claims without depositing



# Fair exchange in the $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$ -hybrid model - the ladder construction

## “Abort” attack:

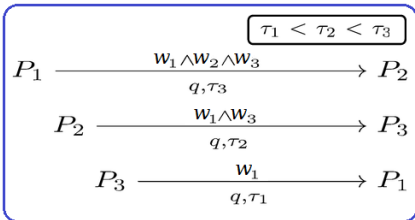
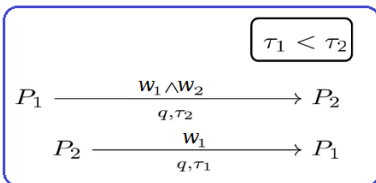
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## Fair exchange:

$P_1$  claims by revealing  $w_1$

$\Rightarrow P_2$  can claim by revealing  $w_2$

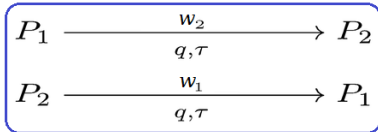




Fair exchange in the  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$ -hybrid model - the ladder construction

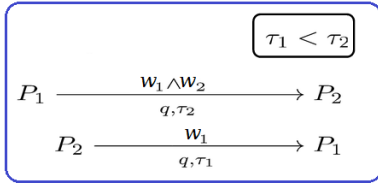
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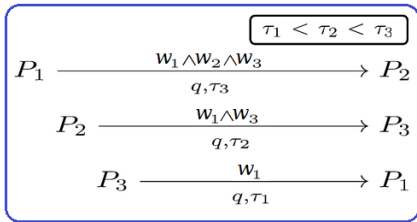
Fair exchange:

$P_1$  claims by revealing  $w_1$   
 $\Rightarrow P_2$  can claim by revealing  $w_2$



Malicious coalition:

Coalition  $P_1, P_2$  obtain  $w_3$  from  $P_3$   
 $P_2$  doesn't claim the top transaction  
 $P_3$  isn't compensated



Fair exchange in the  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$ -hybrid model - the ladder construction (contd.)

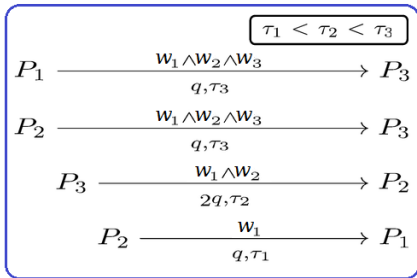
Fair exchange:

Bottom two levels:

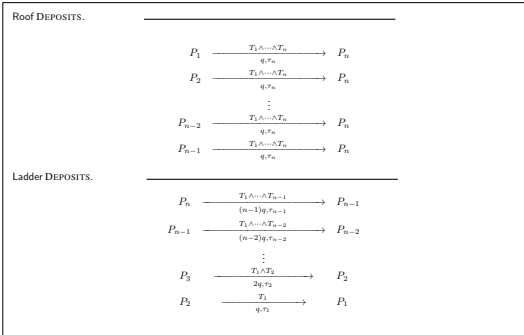
$P_1, P_2$  get compensated by  $P_3$

Top two levels:

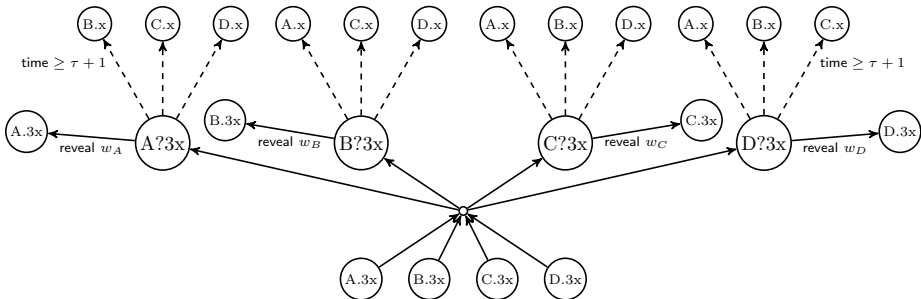
$P_3$  gets her refunds by revealing  $w_3$



Full ladder:



# Multilock



In principle, jointly locking coins for fair exchange can work well:

- 1  $M =$  “if  $P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4$  sign this message with inputs of coins( $3x$ ) each then their  $3x$  coins are locked into 4 outputs of coins( $3x$ ) each, where each  $P_i$  can redeem output  $T_i$  with a witness  $w_i$  that satisfies  $\phi_i$ , and after time  $\tau$  anyone can divide an unredeemed output  $T_i$  equally to  $\{P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4\} \setminus \{P_i\}$ ”
- 2  $P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4$  sign  $M$  and broadcast it, and after  $M$  is confirmed, each  $P_i$  redeems coins( $x$ ) by revealing  $w_i$

## Practicality of multiparty fair exchange with penalties in Bitcoin

- Unfortunately,  $\mathcal{F}_{ML}^*$  cannot be implemented in vanilla Bitcoin because of self-imposed “transaction malleability” (ECDSA is a randomized signature algorithm).
- Instead, we propose a protocol enhancement that eliminates transaction malleability while retaining expressibility.

## Practicality of multiparty fair exchange with penalties in Bitcoin

- Unfortunately,  $\mathcal{F}_{ML}^*$  cannot be implemented in vanilla Bitcoin because of self-imposed “transaction malleability” (ECDSA is a randomized signature algorithm).
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Recap:

- $\mathcal{F}_{ML}^*$  requires  $O(1)$  Bitcoin rounds and  $O(n^2)$  transaction data (and  $O(n^2)$  signature operations), while the ladder requires  $O(n)$  Bitcoin rounds and  $O(n)$  transactions.
- Multiparty fair computation can be implemented in Bitcoin via the ladder construction.
- Multiparty fair computation can be implemented via  $\mathcal{F}_{ML}^*$  with an enhanced Bitcoin protocol.

## Comparison with other ways to achieve fairness

### Gradual release

- Release the output bit by bit...
- Even with only 2 parties, the number of rounds depends on a security parameter.
- Complexity blowup because the protocol must ensure that the parties don't release junk bits.
- Assumptions on the computational power of the parties, sequential puzzles to avoid parallelization.

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### Trusted bank

- Legally Enforceable Fairness [Lindell 2008]
- Requires a trusted party to provide an ideal bank functionality.
- 2-party only: the bank can provide  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{CR}}^*$  or  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{ML}}^*$  to use our constructions directly, or implement similar protocols.
- Not a secure cash distribution protocol...

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## The Cryptographic Lens, by Shafi Goldwasser

# “Paradoxical” Abilities 1983-

- Exchanging Secret Messages without Ever Meeting
  - Simultaneous Contract Signing Over the Phone
  - Generating exponentially long pseudo random strings indistinguishable from random
  - Proving a theorem without revealing the proof
- ⇒
- Playing any digital game without referees
  - Private Information Retrieval

## Secure cash distribution with penalties

Ideal 2-party secure (non-reactive) cash distribution functionality:

- 1 Wait to receive  $(x_1, \text{coins}(d_1))$  from  $P_1$  and  $(x_2, \text{coins}(d_2))$  from  $P_2$ .
- 2 Compute  $(y, v) \leftarrow f(x_1, x_2, d_1, d_2)$ .
- 3 Send  $(y, \text{coins}(v))$  to  $P_1$  and  $(y, \text{coins}(d_1 + d_2 - v))$  to  $P_2$ .

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- ② Compute  $(y, v) \leftarrow f(x_1, x_2, d_1, d_2)$ .
- ③ Send  $(y, \text{coins}(v))$  to  $P_1$  and  $(y, \text{coins}(d_1 + d_2 - v))$  to  $P_2$ .

- In the general case, each party  $P_i$  has input  $(x_i, \text{coins}(d_i))$  and receives output  $(y, \text{coins}(v_i))$ .
- Use-cases: generalized lottery, incentivized computation, ...

## Blackbox secure cash distribution

- Blackbox realization of secure cash distribution in the  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{CR}}^*$ -hybrid model.
- Assume: the input coins amount of  $P_i$  is an  $m_i$ -bit number.

### Step 1: commit to random secrets (preprocessing)

For all  $i \in [n], j \in [n] \setminus \{i\}, k \in [m_i]$ :

- $P_i$  picks a random witness  $w_{i,j,k} \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$
- $P_i$  computes  $c_{i,j,k} \leftarrow \text{commit}(1^\lambda, w_{i,j,k})$ .
- $P_i$  sends  $c_{i,j,k}$  to all parties.
- $P_i$  makes an  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{CR}}^*$  transaction  $P_i \xrightarrow[2^k, \tau]{w_{i,j,k}} P_j$

## Blackbox secure cash distribution (contd.)

Denote the the input coin amounts by  $d = (d_1, \dots, d_n)$  and the string inputs by  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ .

### Step 2: compute the cash distribution

Invoke secure SFE (unfair for now) for the cash distribution:

- Compute the output coin amounts  $v = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$ .
- Derive numbers  $b_{i,j}$  that specify how many coins  $P_i$  needs to send  $P_j$  according to the input coins  $d$  and output coins  $v$ .
- Let  $(b_{i,j,1}, b_{i,j,2}, \dots, b_{i,j,m_i})$  be the binary expansion of  $b_{i,j}$ .
- For all  $i, j, k$ , if  $b_{i,j,k} = 1$  then concatenate to the output a value  $w'_{i,j,k}$  that satisfies  $\text{commit}(1^\lambda, w'_{i,j,k}) = c_{i,j,k}$ .
- Compute  $y = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  and output  $y$  too.

Then, use fair exchange with penalties (with time limit  $< \tau$ ) to deliver the output to all parties, so that  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{CR}}^*$  claims will ensue.

## Is one-shot protocol enough?

Are we there yet?

## Is one-shot protocol enough?

Are we there yet? In the case of poker, not really.

- The most natural formulation of poker is as a *reactive* secure MPC.
- Multistage protocol: after each stage of the computation some intermediate outputs are revealed to the parties.
  - Example: the top card of the deck is revealed to all parties.
- One-shot protocol is not the natural formulation:
  - A circuit that takes into account all the possible variables is highly inefficient.
  - Those variables may depend on external events (say, you receive a phone call regarding an unrelated financial loss).
- $\Rightarrow$  must be dropout-tolerant:
  - After a stage that reveals information, corrupt parties must be penalized if they abort.
  - In fact, the corrupt parties must be penalized unless they continue the next stage of the computation.

## Reactive secure cash distribution

Ingredients needed:

- See-saw instead of the ladder construction, to force parties to make the next move.



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- Blackbox secure cash distribution as described, with refunds at time  $\tau$  that exceeds the see-saw time limits, and hence with circuits specified at start that are utilized in the final rounds.

## The see-saw construction: 2 parties

ROOF DEPOSIT.

$$P_1 \xrightarrow[q, \tau_{m,2}]{TT_{m,2}} P_2 \quad (Tx_{m,2})$$

SEE-SAW DEPOSITS. For  $r = m - 1$  to 1:

$$P_2 \xrightarrow[2q, \tau_{r+1,1}]{TT_{r+1,1}} P_1 \quad (Tx_{r+1,1})$$

$$P_1 \xrightarrow[2q, \tau_{r,2}]{TT_{r,2}} P_2 \quad (Tx_{r,2})$$

FLOOR DEPOSIT.

$$P_2 \xrightarrow[q, \tau_{1,1}]{TT_{1,1}} P_1 \quad (Tx_{1,1})$$

## The see-saw construction: multiparty

ROOF DEPOSITS. For each  $j \in [n - 1]$ :

$$P_j \xrightarrow[q, \tau_{2n-2}]{\text{TT}_n} P_n$$

LADDER DEPOSITS. For  $i = n - 1$  down to 2:

- Rung unlock: For  $j = n$  down to  $i + 1$ :

$$P_j \xrightarrow[q, \tau_{2i-1}]{\text{TT}_i \wedge U_{i,j}} P_i$$

- Rung climb:

$$P_{i+1} \xrightarrow[i \cdot q, \tau_{2i-2}]{\text{TT}_i} P_i$$

- Rung lock: For each  $j = n$  down to  $i + 1$ :

$$P_i \xrightarrow[q, \tau_{2i-2}]{\text{TT}_{i-1} \wedge U_{i,j}} P_j$$

FOOT DEPOSIT.

$$P_2 \xrightarrow[q, \tau_1]{\text{TT}_1} P_1$$

## The see-saw construction: multiparty (contd.)

### Properties of the multiparty see-saw

- With  $m$  rounds,  $O(n^2m)$  calls to  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$  (ladder is  $O(nm)$ ).
- $O(nm)$  security deposit by each party.

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- In the ladder  $P_i$  can abort and then nobody learns the secret.
- This is crucial for reactive functionalities:
  - Consider poker: suppose that in round  $j$  all parties exchange shares to reveal the top card of the deck.
  - If  $P_i$  didn't like this top card, we must not allow  $P_i$  to abort in round  $j + 1$  without punishment.



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  - Consider poker: suppose that in round  $j$  all parties exchange shares to reveal the top card of the deck.
  - If  $P_i$  didn't like this top card, we must not allow  $P_i$  to abort in round  $j + 1$  without punishment.
- The circuits verify a signed extension of the entire execution transcript, and that this extension conforms with the protocol.
- $\Rightarrow$  needs more expressive scripting language than vanilla Bitcoin, but not Turing complete scripts because the round bounds are known in advance.

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  - Deals shares of the hands and shares of the rest of the cards to all parties, and also delivers all the commitments to all parties.
- The  $\mathcal{F}_{CR}^*$  circuit in each round of the see-saw will verify signatures of a transcript, then enforce betting rules or force a party to reveal a share of a card, or in the final round force a party to reveal some  $w_{i,j,k}$  values.
- For example: if all parties called and the top card on the deck should be revealed, then the next see-saw circuits will require each party to reveal her share of the top card.

## Some open questions

- Lower bound of linear number of rounds for fairness with penalties in the  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{CR}}^*$ -hybrid model?
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Thank you.